



DC Public Education Landscape

Updated December 18, 2019

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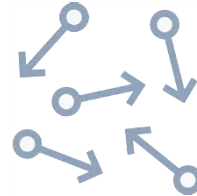
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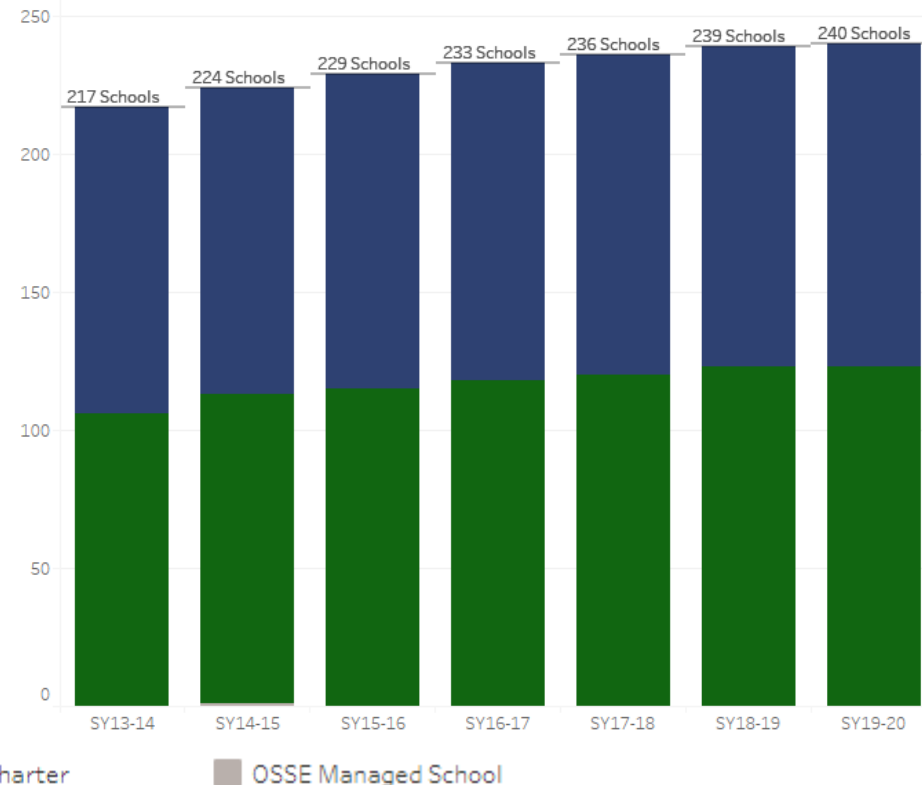
Number of LEAs and Schools ★

In SY19-20, there were 63 Local Education Agencies (LEA) that had schools offering elementary, middle, and high school as well as schools specifically designated for adult, alternative, and special education students. LEAs are typically thought of as school districts. DCPS is one LEA and the public charter sector had 62 LEAs. Each LEA can offer one or more schools. As of SY2019-20, there are 240 public schools across Washington, DC.

Number of Local Education Agencies, SY13-14 to SY19-20



Number of Schools, SY13-14 to SY19-20



Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment, SY13-14 to SY18-19

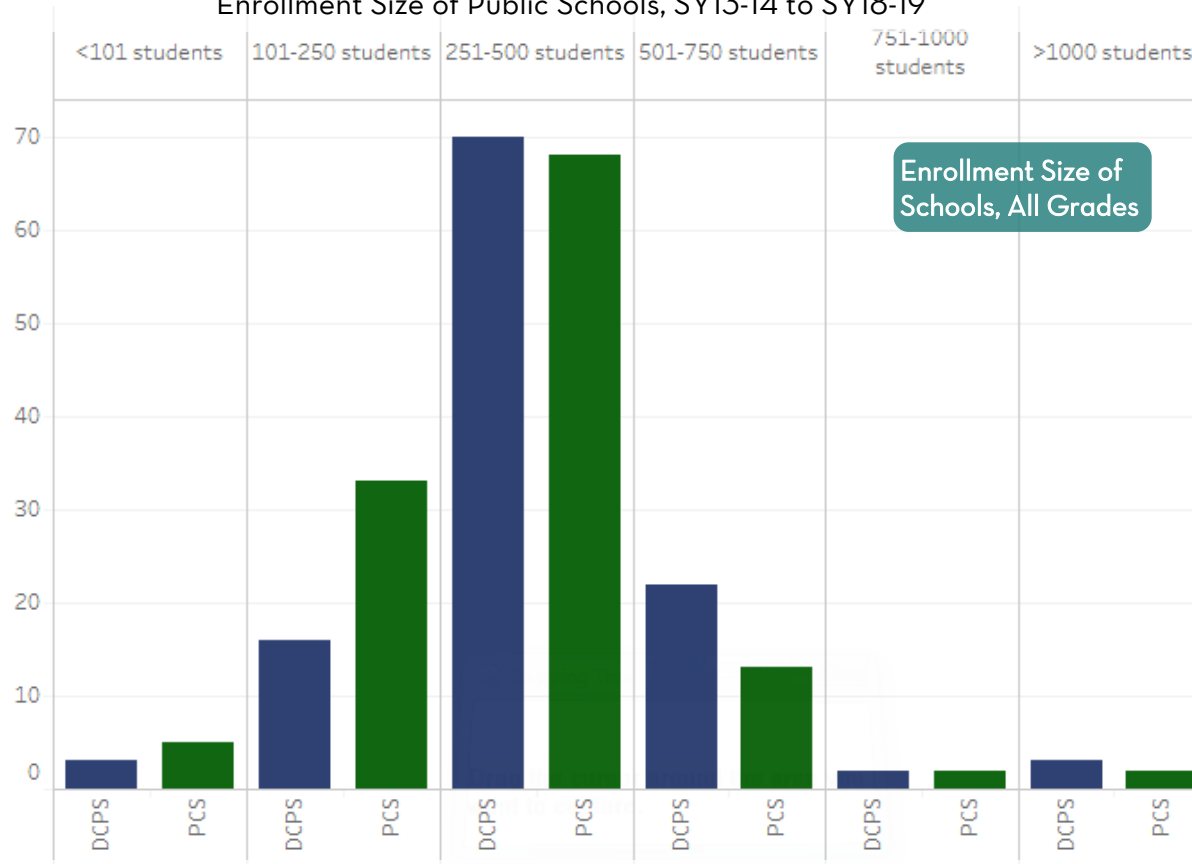


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Size of Enrollment of Public Schools

Most public schools in Washington, DC are in the range of 251-500 students, with few schools enrolling fewer than 100 students or more than 1,000 students. At the grade band level, elementary and middle school enrollment sizes are similar to overall trends, with most DCPS and public charter schools enrolling in the 251-500 student range. However, high schools trend a little larger, particularly for DCPS schools, with 10 DCPS high school having more than 500 students enrolled.

Enrollment Size of Public Schools, SY13-14 to SY18-19



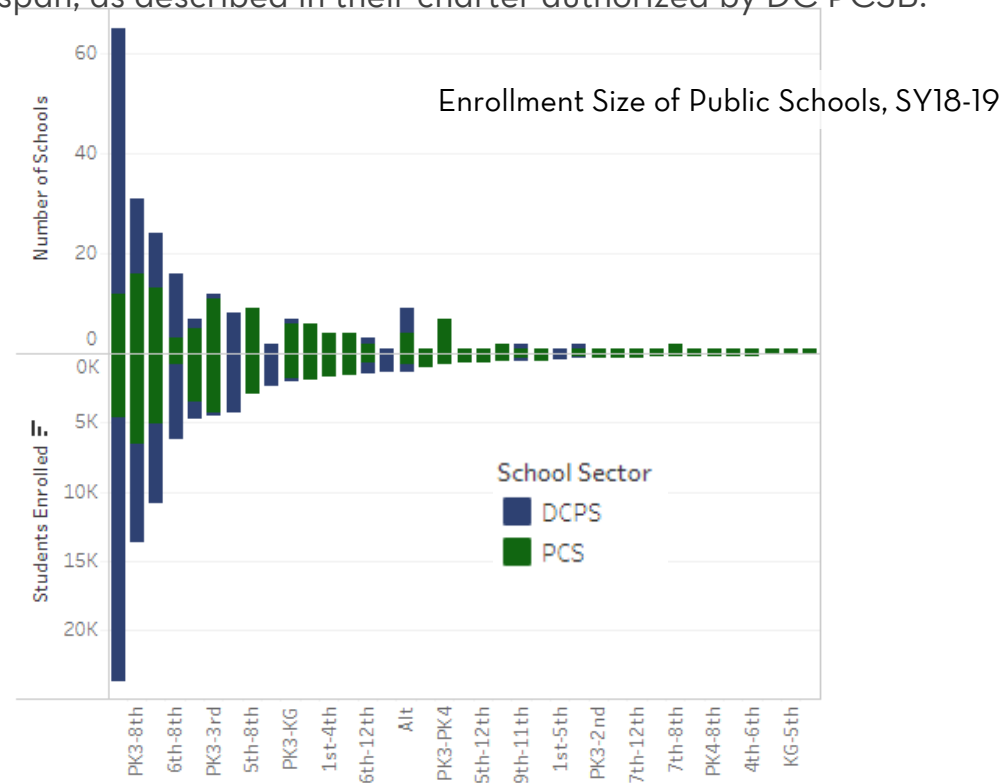
Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment, SY13-14 to SY18-19



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Grade Configurations of Public Schools

There are no standard school grade configurations in the District of Columbia. In SY18-19, there were 37 different school grade configurations across all DCPS and public charter schools. DCPS typically offers elementary schools with either PK3 to 5th or PK4 to 5th, middle schools with 6th to 8th, high schools with 9th to 12th, or education campuses with either PK3 to 8th (elementary and middle combined) or 6th to 12th (middle and high combined). Public charter schools offer a wider variety of grade configurations. In some cases, this variety reflects that the public charter school has not reached its maximum intended grade. Public charter schools often add a grade each year in order to reach their full grade span, as described in their charter authorized by DC PCSB.



Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment, SY13-14 to SY18-19

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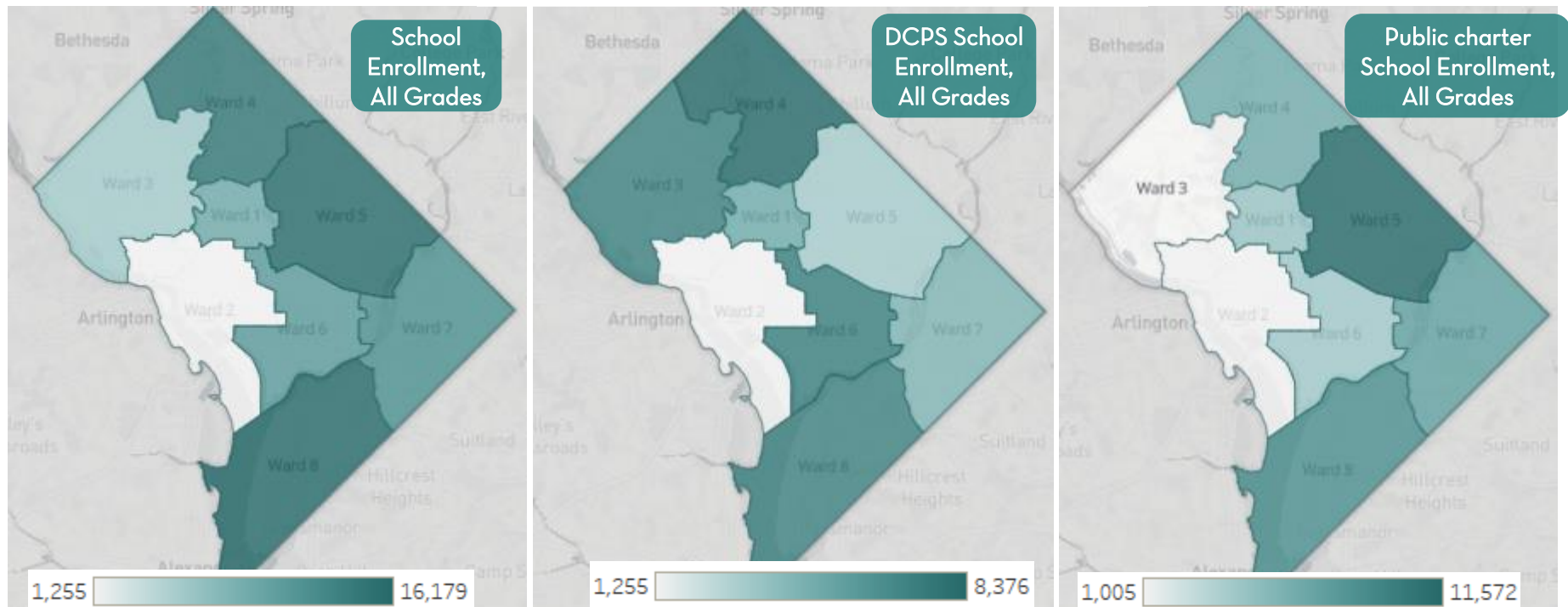


Chapter 2. Public Schools

Enrollment of Public Schools by Ward

Total enrollment in public schools is greatest in Ward 8, followed by enrollment in Wards 4 and 5. By sector, enrollment in DCPS schools is more evenly dispersed across the city, with Wards 3, 4, 6, and 8 having slightly higher enrollment. Enrollment in public charter schools is greatest in Wards 5 and 8. There are no public charter schools in Ward 3. Ward 2 has the lowest public school enrollment, in total as well as for each sector.

Public School Enrollment by Ward, SY18-19



Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment, SY13-14 to SY18-19

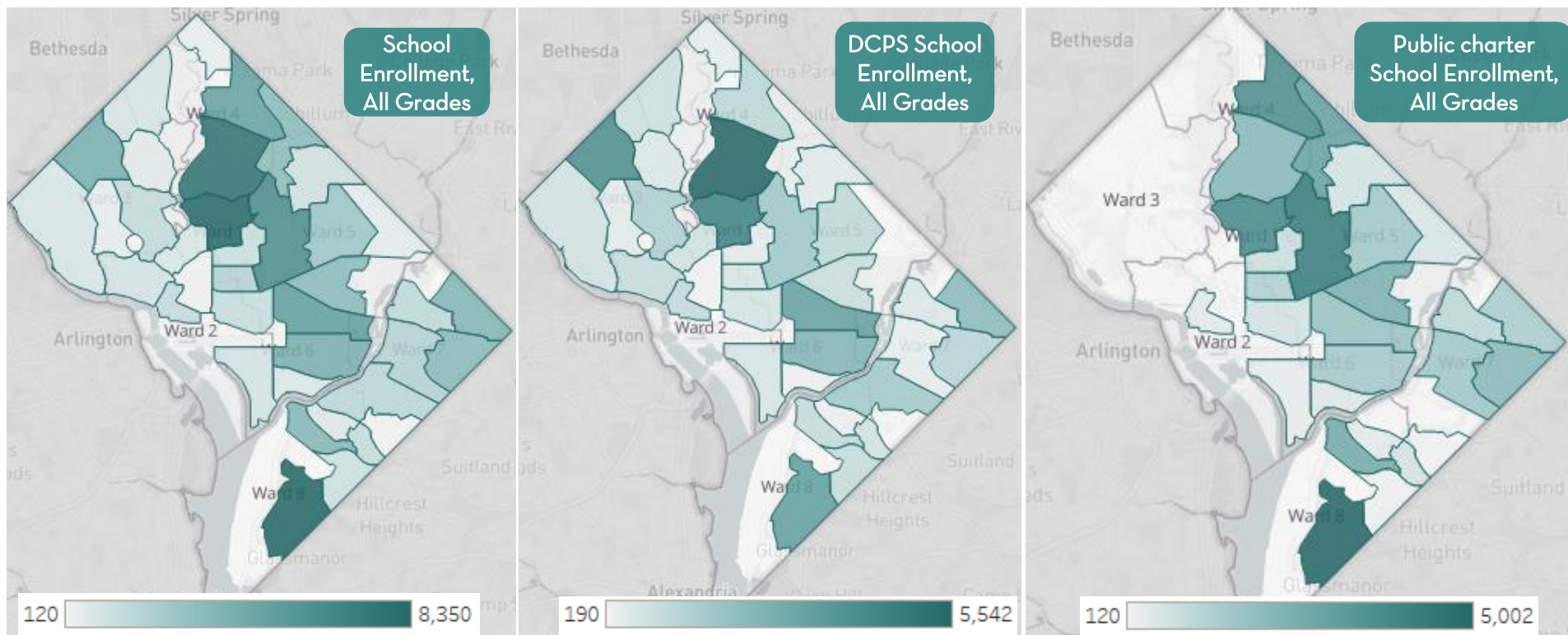


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Enrollment of Public Schools by Neighborhood Cluster

Public schools in Columbia Heights and Mt Pleasant (Cluster 2), Crestwood and Petworth (Cluster 18), and Congress Heights (Cluster 39) have the greatest enrollments. DCPS schools have large enrollments in the clusters listed above, as well as in Friendship Heights and Tenleytown (Cluster 11) and Union Station (Cluster 25). Public charter school enrollment is substantial also in Clusters 2 and 39, but also in Takoma and Brightwood (Cluster 17), Edgewood and Bloomingdale (Cluster 21), and Barry Farm (Cluster 37). Enrollment by grade is similar to overall trends.

Public School Enrollment by Neighborhood Cluster, SY18-19



Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment, SY13-14 to SY18-19



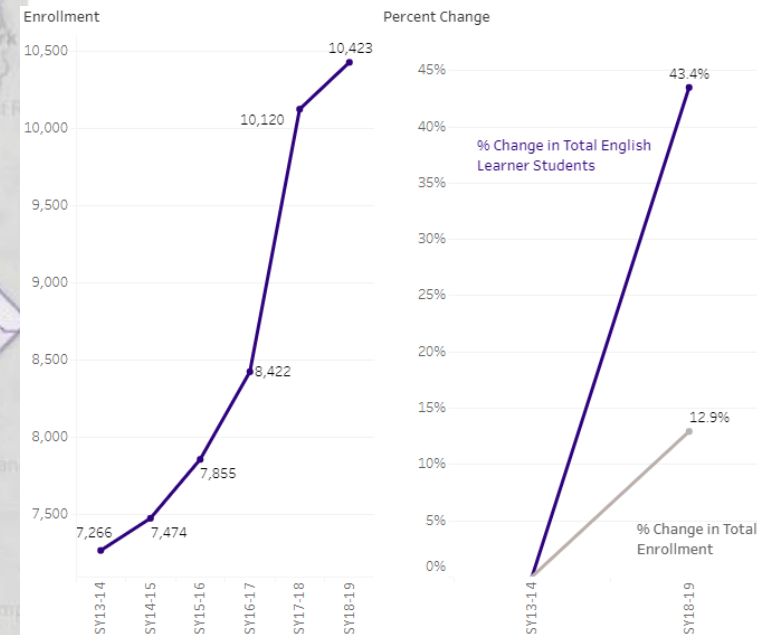
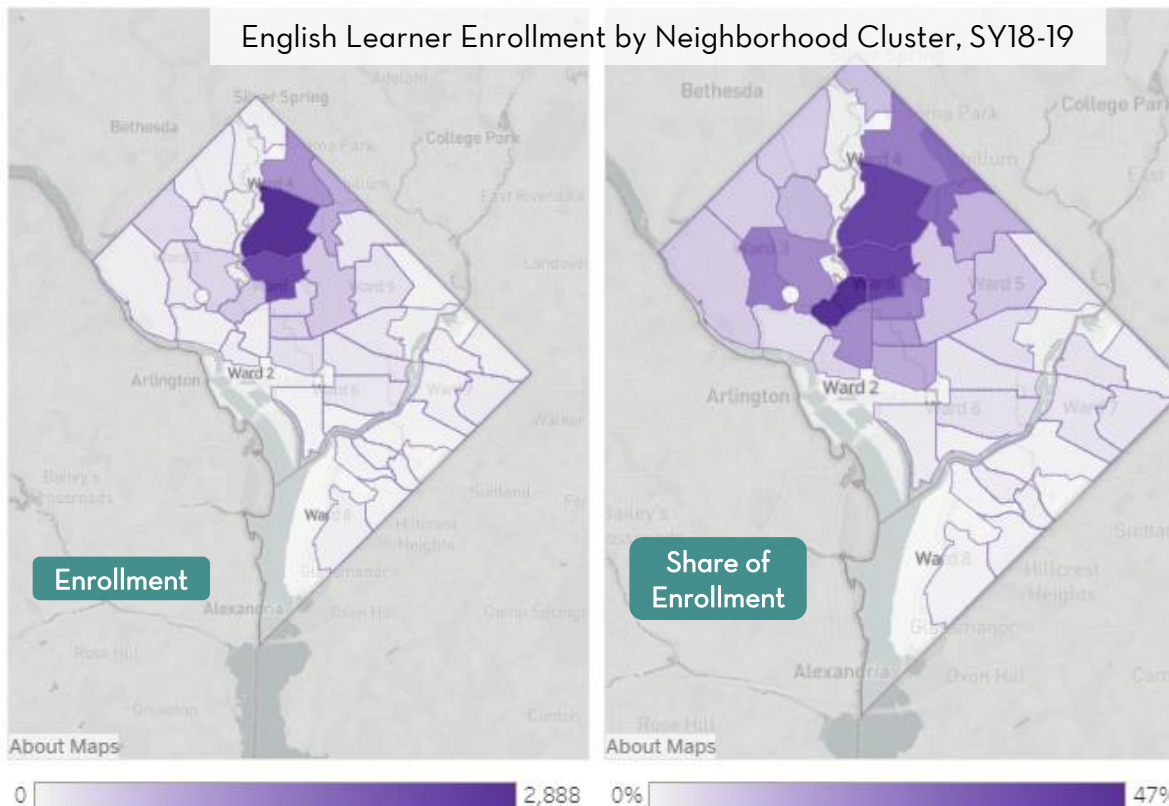
Chapter 2. Public Schools

School Enrollment by Special Populations – English Learners

Public schools in Crestwood and Petworth (Cluster 18) enroll the most English learner students in number. As a percent of the total enrollment for that cluster, schools in Kalorama Heights, Adams Morgan, and Lanier Heights (Cluster 1) enroll the most English learner students.

Since SY13-14, nearly 3,200 additional students have been identified as English learners, a 43% increase compared to the 13% growth in total enrollment of students under the age of 22. The noticeable increase in SY17-18 was due to a national revision to the assessment test.

English Learner Enrollment by Neighborhood Cluster, SY18-19



* Only students between the ages of 3 and 21 can qualify for English learners designation per federal requirements.

Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment, SY13-14 to SY18-19

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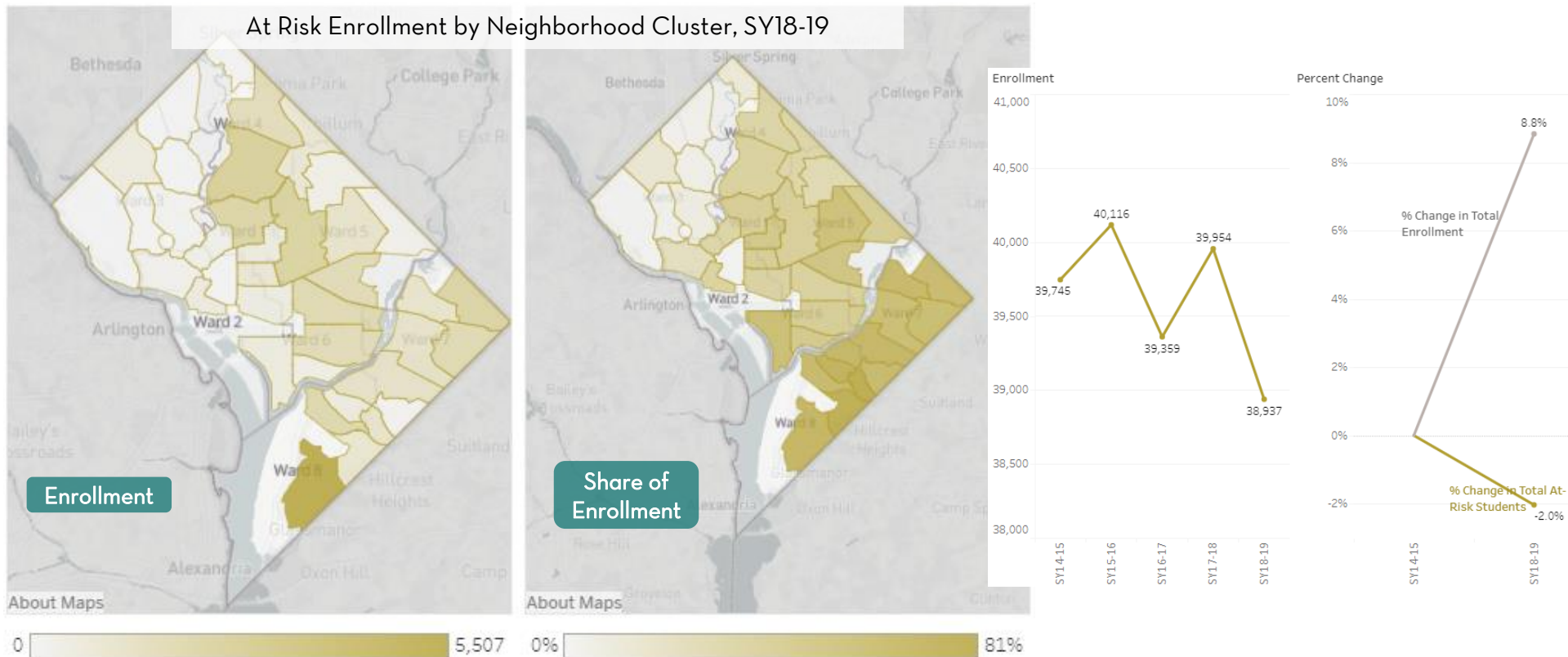
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School Enrollment by Special Populations – At Risk

Crestwood and Petworth (Cluster 18) and Congress Heights (Cluster 39) enroll the most students identified as at-risk of academic failure (typically referred to as "at risk".) As a percent of total enrollment, clusters in Wards 7 and 8 have the highest percent of at-risk students.

Since SY14-15 (the first year for at-risk designation), the number of at-risk students has fluctuated, but as of SY18-19 was on the decline, decreasing by 2% compared to an increase of almost 9% in PK3 through 12th grade enrollment.

At Risk Enrollment by Neighborhood Cluster, SY18-19



Note: The total enrollment excludes adult and alternative school students as they do not qualify for the at risk status.

Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment, SY13-14 to SY18-19

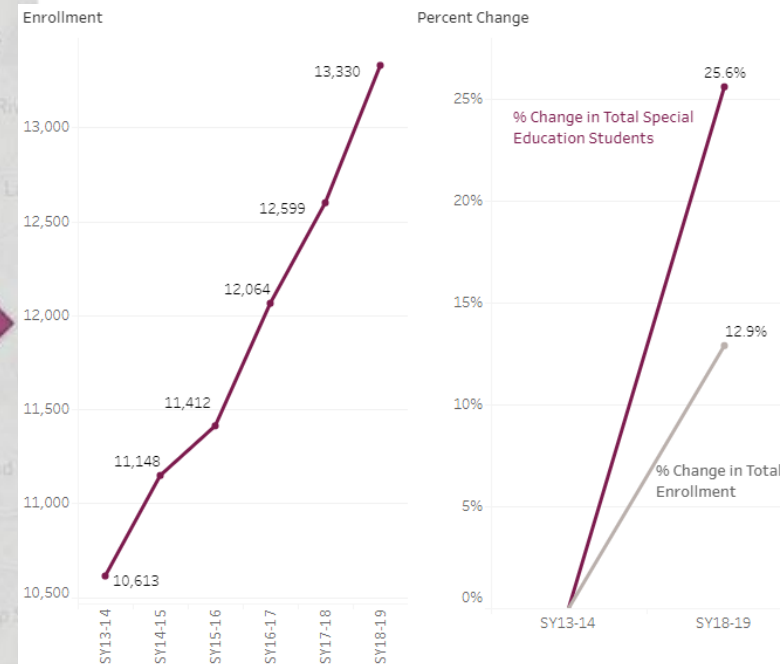
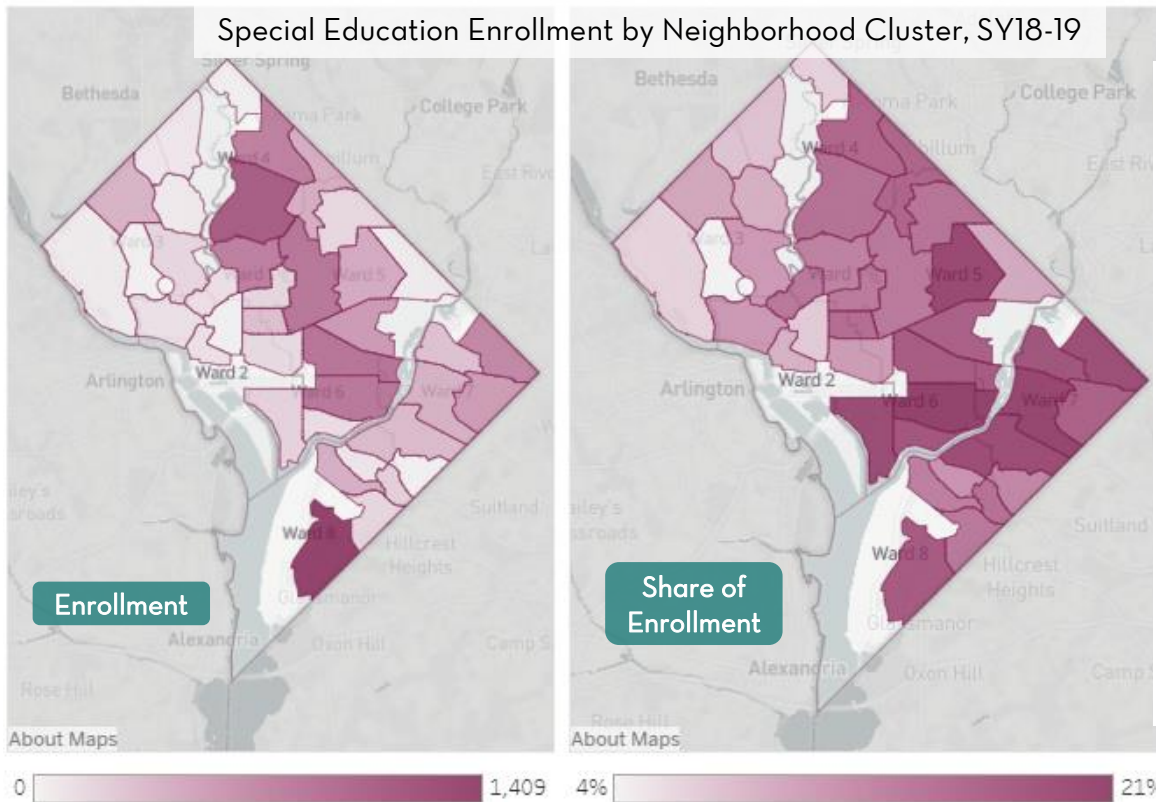


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School Enrollment by Special Populations – Special Education

Crestwood and Petworth (Cluster 18) and Congress Heights (Cluster 39) enroll the most special education students. However, clusters in the southeast portion of the city tend to enroll more special education students as a percent of their total enrollment. Since SY13-14, 26% more students have been identified as special education students, outpacing the percent change in total enrollment of students under the age of 22 over the same period (13%).

Special Education Enrollment by Neighborhood Cluster, SY18-19



Note: Only students between the ages of 3 and 21 can qualify for special education per federal requirements.

Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment, SY13-14 to SY18-19



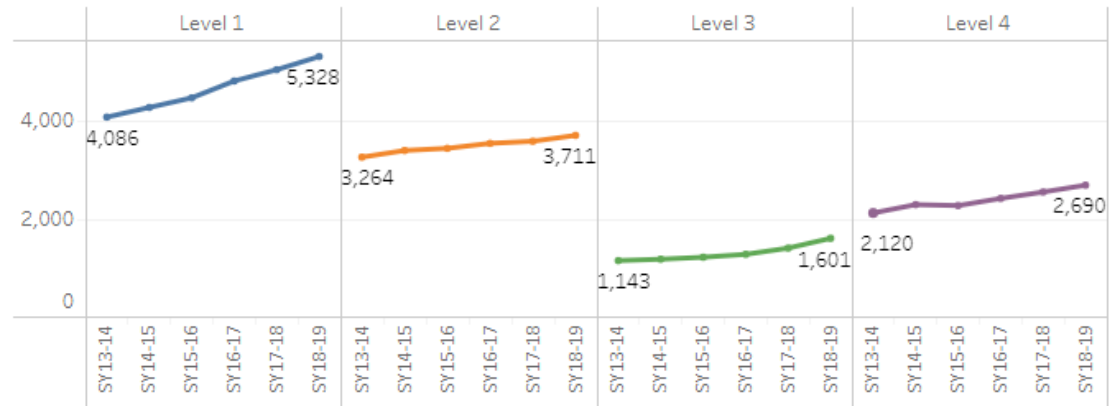
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Special Education by Level of Need

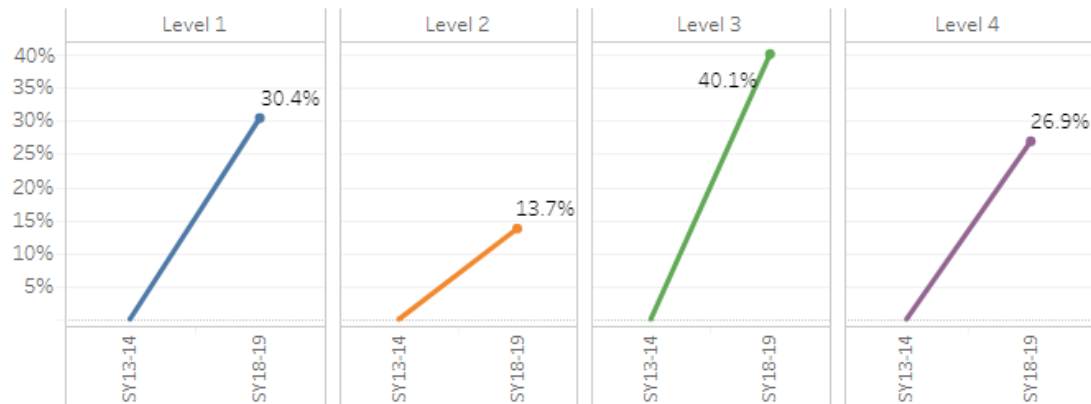
While all special education levels have increased since SY13-14, the overall increase has been driven by additional Level 1 and Level 3 students, at 30% and 40%, respectively. Level 4 students have grown by 27% since SY13-14.

Change in Public School Special Education Enrollment by Level of Need, SY13-14 to SY18-19

Enrollment



Percent Change



Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment, SY13-14 to SY18-19

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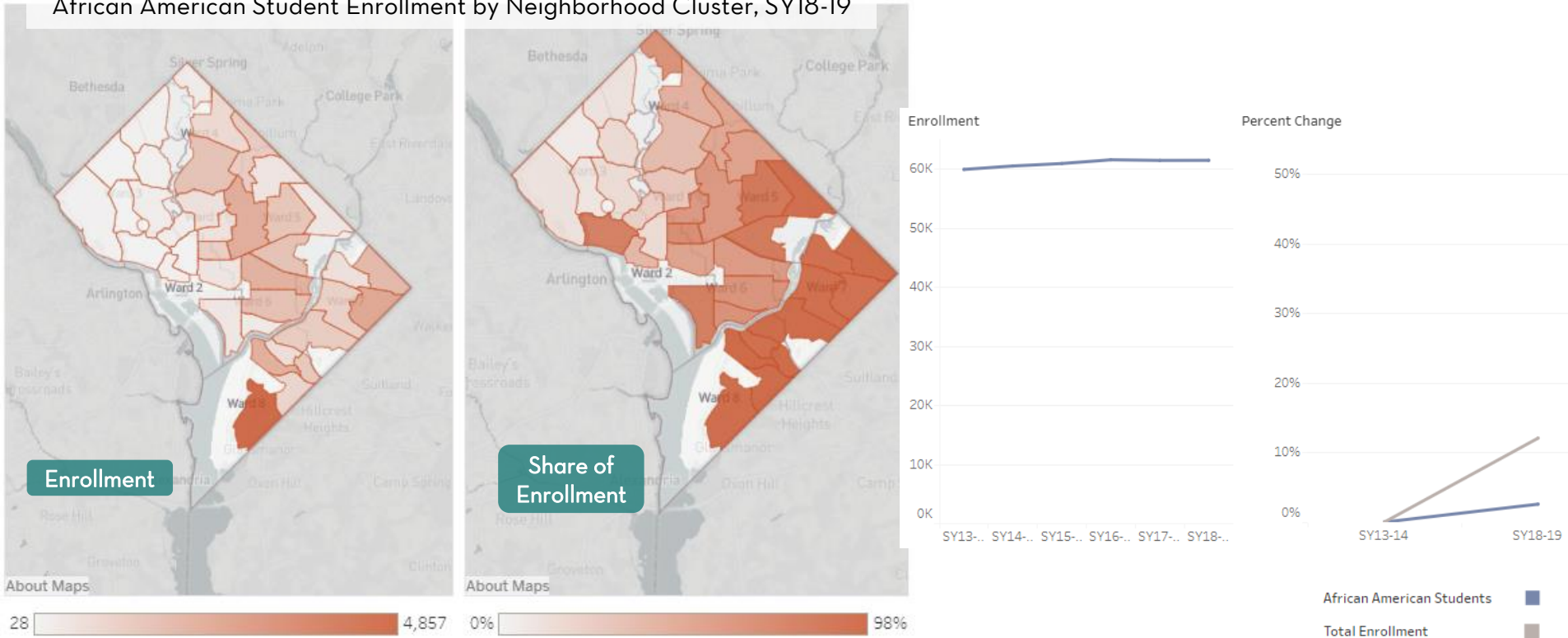
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School Enrollment by Race and Ethnicity – African American Students

Public schools in Congress Heights (Cluster 39) enroll the most African American students. As a percent of total public school enrollment, neighborhood clusters in Wards 7 and 8 have the highest share of African American students.

Total public school enrollment has increased by 12% since SY13-14. The number of African-American students has remained relatively flat since SY13-14.

African American Student Enrollment by Neighborhood Cluster, SY18-19



Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment, SY13-14 to SY18-19

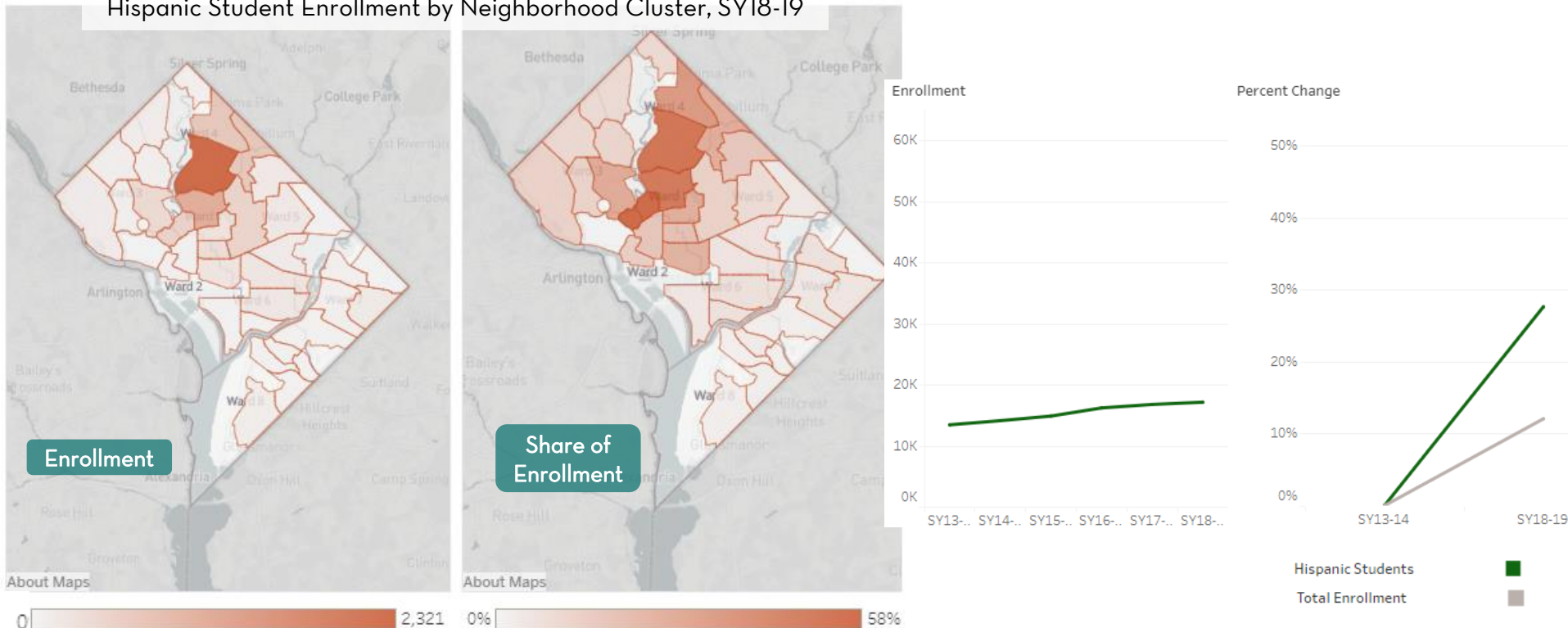


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School Enrollment by Race and Ethnicity – Hispanic Students

Public schools in Brightwood Park and Petworth (Cluster 18) and Columbia Heights (Cluster 2) enroll the most Hispanic students. Schools in Brightwood Park and Petworth (Cluster 18), Kalorama Heights and Adams Morgan (Cluster 1), and Columbia Heights (Cluster 2) enroll the most Hispanic students as a percent of total public school enrollment. These neighborhoods are also where the most English Learner students live. The number of Hispanic students has increased in number, increasing at a faster rate compared to total public school enrollment, at 28%.

Hispanic Student Enrollment by Neighborhood Cluster, SY18-19



Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment, SY13-14 to SY18-19



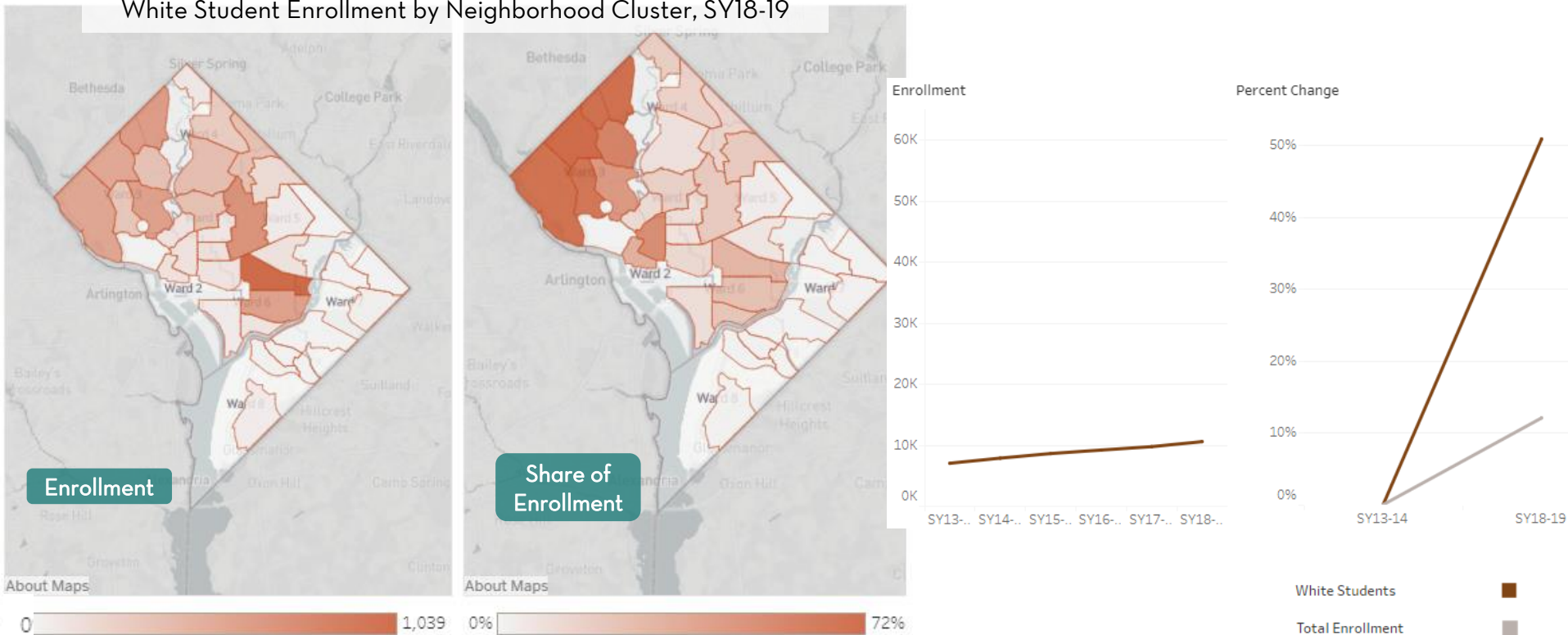
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School Enrollment by Race and Ethnicity – White Students

Public schools in Friendship Heights (Cluster 11) and other neighborhood clusters in Ward 3 enroll the most white students. As a percent of total public school enrollment, neighborhood clusters in Ward 3 enroll the most white students.

The number of white students has increased in number, increasing at a faster rate compared to total public school enrollment, at 51%.

White Student Enrollment by Neighborhood Cluster, SY18-19



Source: OSSE Audited Enrollment, SY13-14 to SY18-19

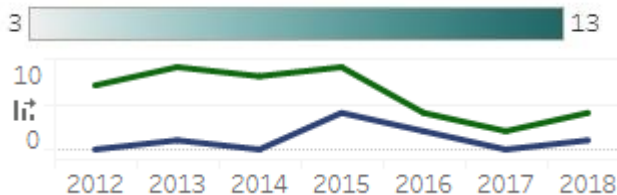
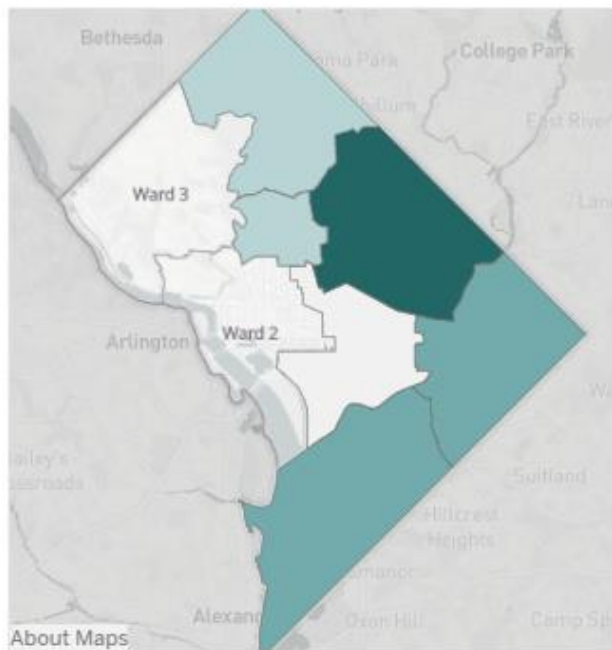


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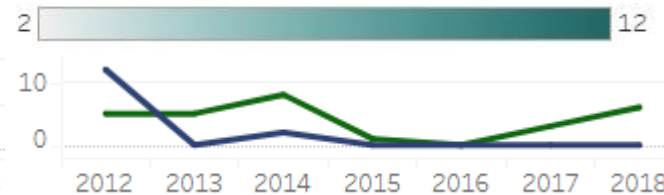
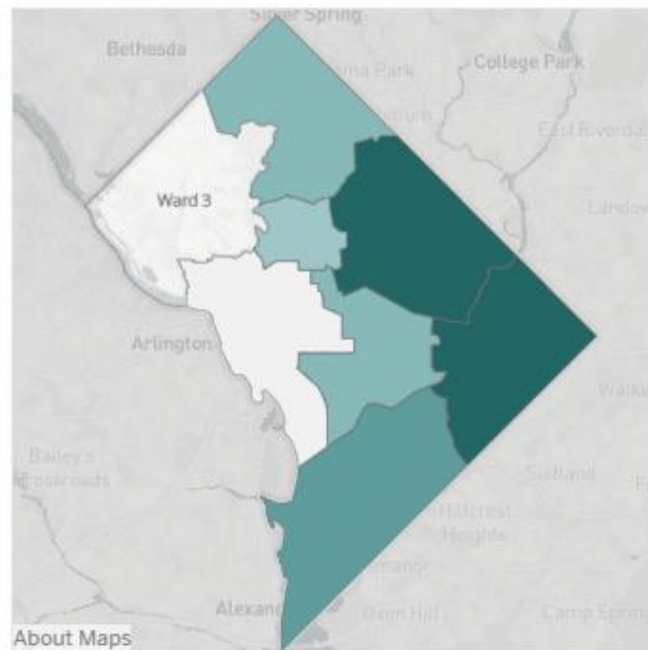
School Opening and Closing Trends

Between SY12-13 and SY18-19, there were one and a half times as many public charter schools that opened (43 schools) versus public charter schools that closed (28 schools). Conversely, twice as many DCPS schools have closed (14 schools) than have opened (8 schools) since SY12-13. Wards 5, 7, and 8 experienced the greatest number of openings and closings since SY12-13.

Closings



Openings



Source: Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education

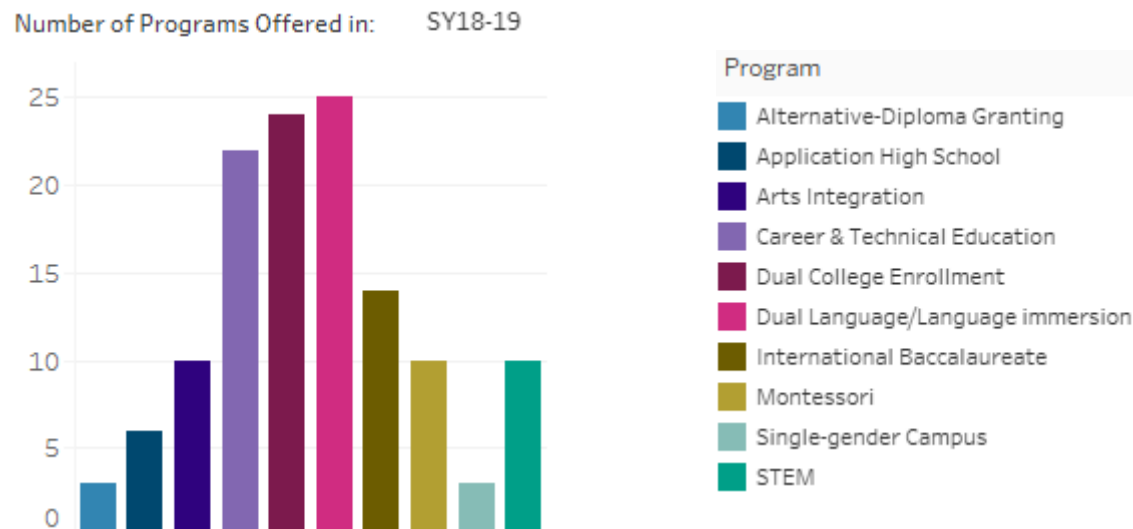
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Specialized Programs Offered by Public Schools

Relying on the common lottery (My School DC) program definitions, in SY18-19, dual language programs were the most frequently offered specialized program, with DCPS offering 13 dual language programs and public charter schools offering 12. Dual college enrollment and career & technical education programs were the next most frequently offered programs. DCPS schools were more likely to offer career & technical education and dual college enrollment programs, while public charter schools were more likely to offer arts integration and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) programs.



Note: See the [Sources, Methodology, and Specialized Program Definitions](#) for more detail about the programs.

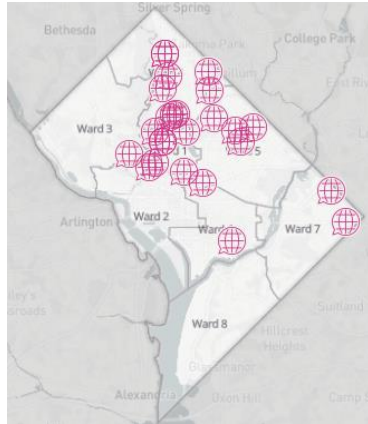
Sources: DCPS, DC PCSB, My School DC



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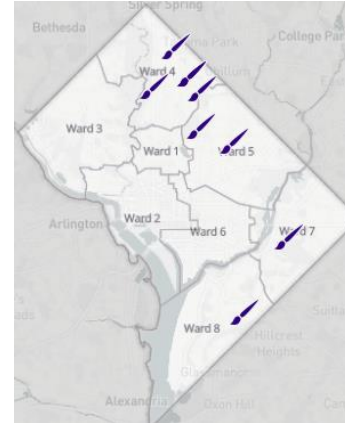
Where Specialized Programs are Offered by Public Schools

The following maps show where some of the most frequently offered specialized programs were located in SY18-19. See the interactive dashboard for more information.



Dual Language/Language Immersion

25 schools offered a dual language or immersion program in SY18-19. Most programs were clustered in the center of the city in Wards 1, 4, and 5. Programs were evenly split between DCPS and public charter schools (13 DCPS and 12 public charter.)

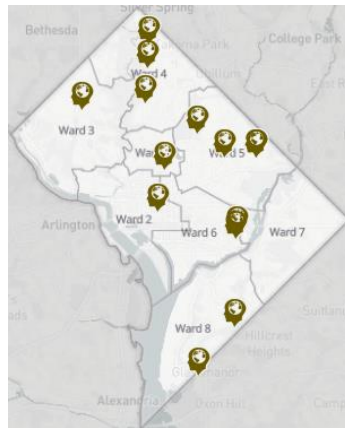


Arts Integration

10 schools offered an arts integration program in SY18-19. These programs were only offered in Wards 4, 5, 7 & 8.

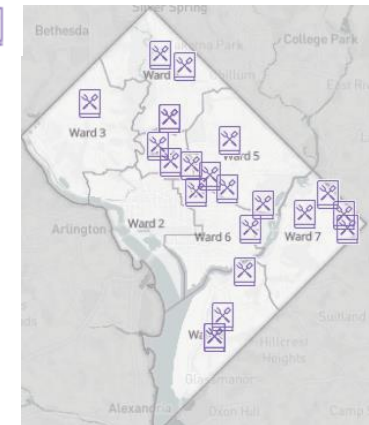
International Baccalaureate

14 schools offered an International Baccalaureate (IB) program in SY18-19. Every ward except Ward 7 offered an IB program.



Career & Technical Education

22 schools offered an career & technical education program (CTE) in SY18-19. Every ward except Ward 2 offered a CTE program.



Sources: DCPS, DC PCSB, My School DC



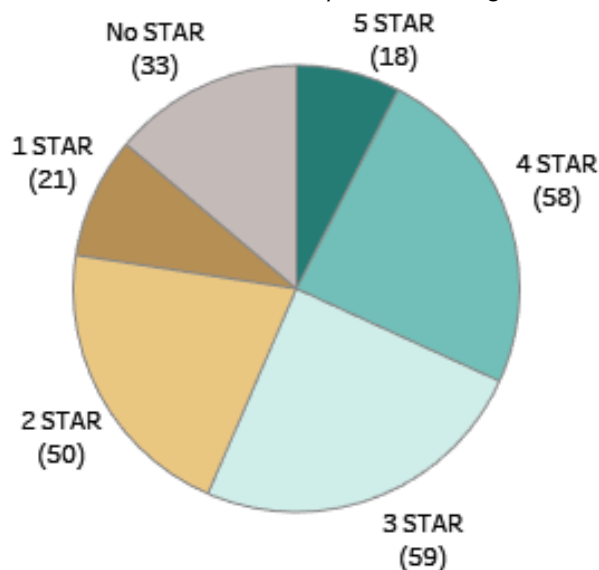
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Number of Public Schools by STAR Rating ★

The state-level accountability system, the School Transparency and Reporting (STAR) Framework, is designed to provide schools with multiple pathways to demonstrate their performance and success. Depending on the specific grade configuration of a school, the STAR framework includes a list of metrics representing academic performance, academic growth, school environment, English language proficiency, graduation rates (for high schools and alternative schools), and educational progress (for alternative schools). Each school is provided an overall star rating, with one star being the lowest and five the highest.

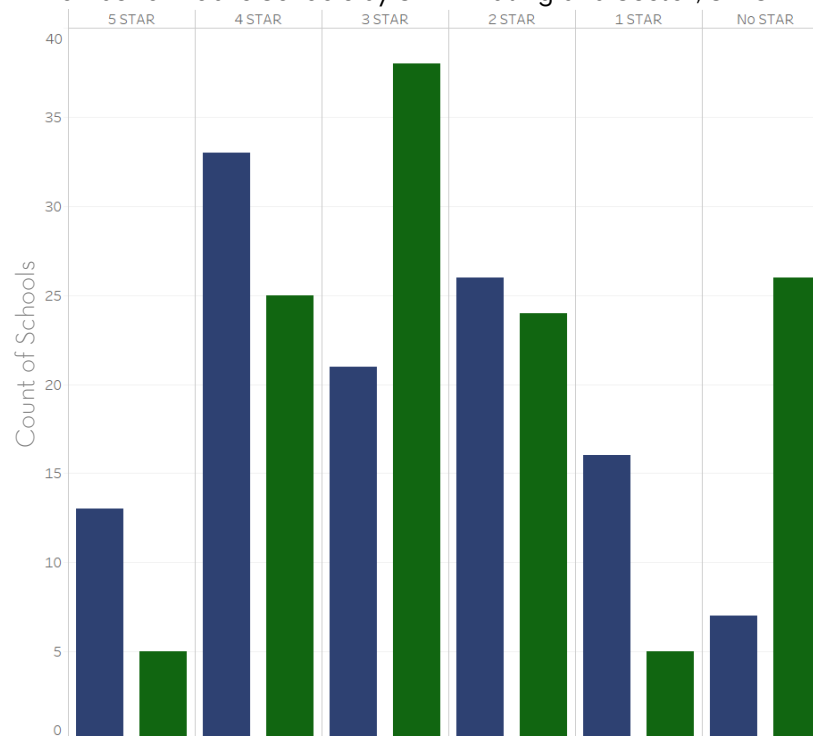
In SY2018-19, 18 public schools (DCPS and PCS) had the highest rating (5 STARs), 58 schools were rated 4 STAR, 59 were 3 STAR, 50 were 2 STAR, and 21 were rated 1 STAR. 33 schools had no STAR rating because they were either a new school, had a particular grade configuration that is not rated, or their enrollment was too small.

Number of Public Schools by STAR Rating, SY18-19



Note: See Sources and Methodology for more information about how STAR ratings are calculated.
Source: OSSE 2018 and 2019 DC School Report Card and STAR Framework

Number of Public Schools by STAR Rating and Sector, SY18-19



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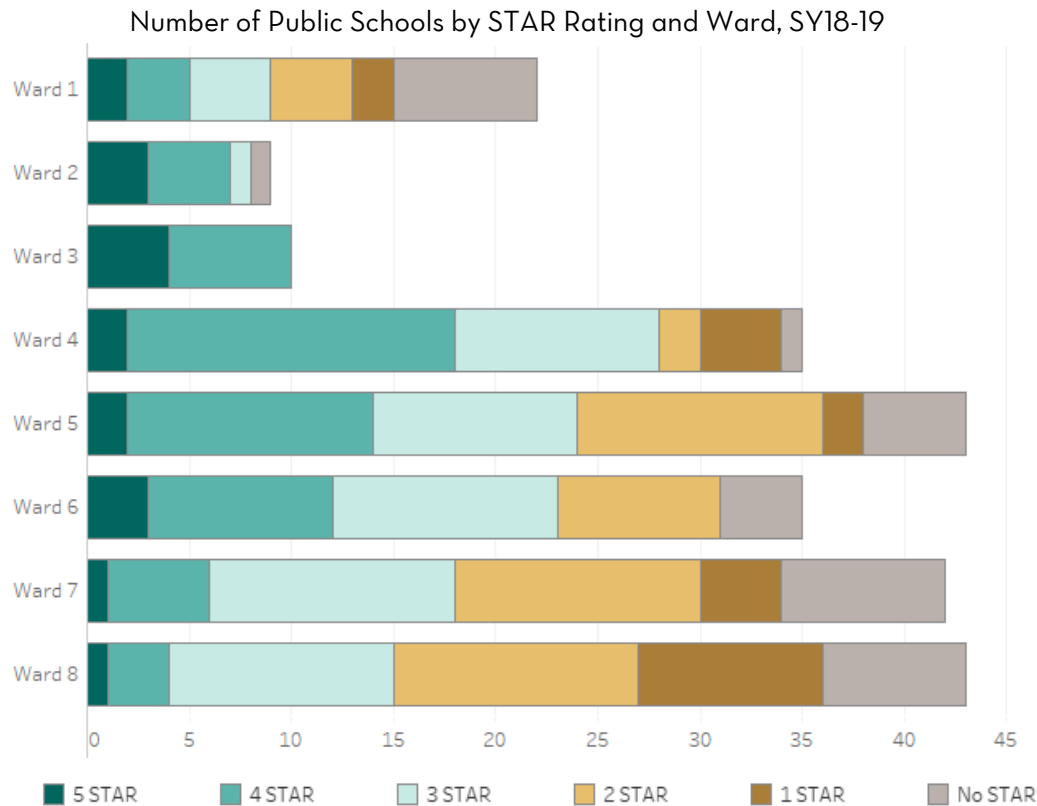
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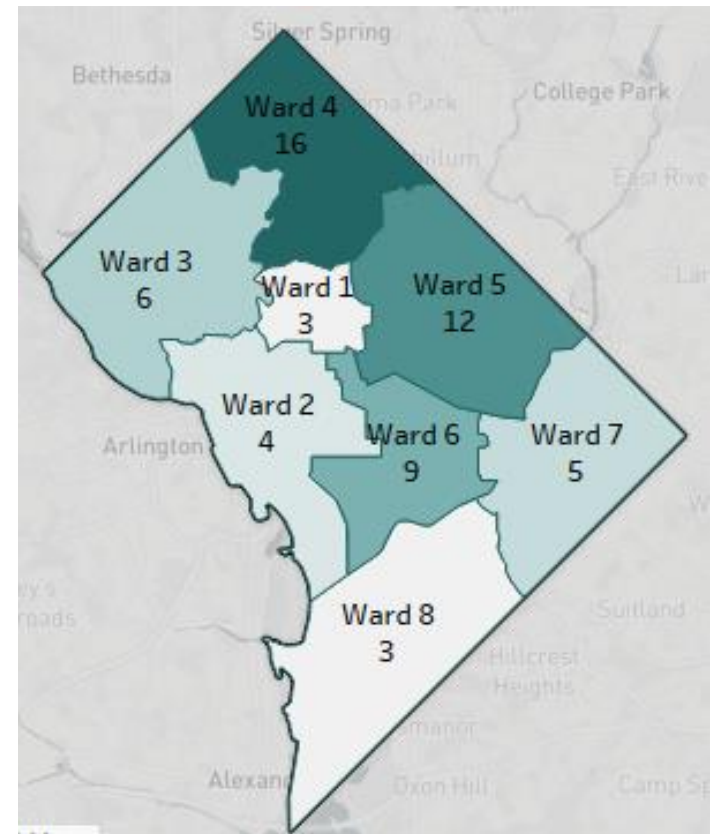
Chapter 2. Public Schools

Number of Public Schools by STAR Rating and Ward

The interactive dashboard displays the number of schools located in each ward by STAR category. In SY2018-19, Wards 4, 5, and 6 had the greatest number of 4 and 5 STAR schools compared to the other wards at 18 schools, 14 schools, and 12 schools, respectively. Wards 5, 7, and 8 had the greatest number of 1 and 2 STAR schools at 14, 16, and 21 schools, respectively. The map below displays the number of 4 STAR schools per ward.



Number of 4 STAR Rated Public Schools by Ward, SY18-19



Note: See Sources and Methodology for more information about how STAR ratings are calculated.
Source: OSSE 2018 and 2019 DC School Report Card and STAR Framework

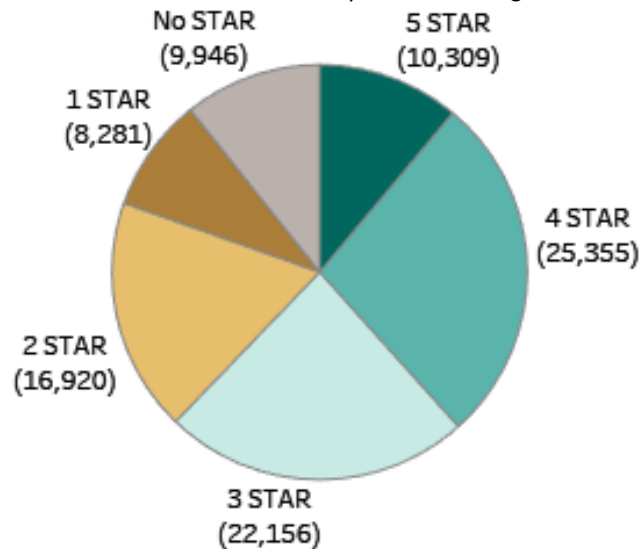


Chapter 2. Public Schools

Public School Enrollment by STAR Rating ★

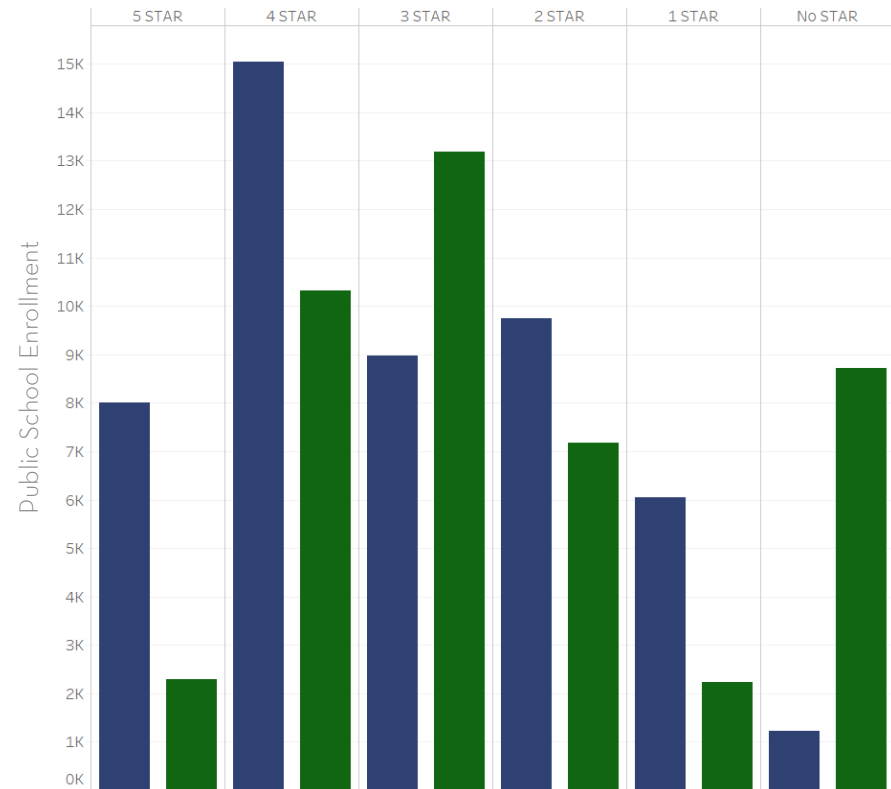
The following describes how many students are enrolled at schools that were rated 1 through 5 STARs, plus those schools that were not rated at all. In SY2018-19, 10,309 public school students (DCPS and PCS) were enrolled at the highest rated schools (5 STARs), 25,355 students at 4 STAR rated schools, 22,156 students at 3 STAR schools, 16,920 students at 2 STAR schools, and 8,281 students at 1 STAR schools. Nearly 10,000 students were enrolled at school that did not have a STAR rating because they were either a new school, had a particular grade configuration that is not rated, or their enrollment was too small.

Public School Enrollment by STAR Rating, SY18-19



Note: See Sources and Methodology for more information about how STAR ratings are calculated.
Source: OSSE 2018 and 2019 DC School Report Card and STAR Framework and OSSE Audited Enrollment, SY17-18 and SY18-19

Public School Enrollment by STAR Rating and Sector, SY18-19



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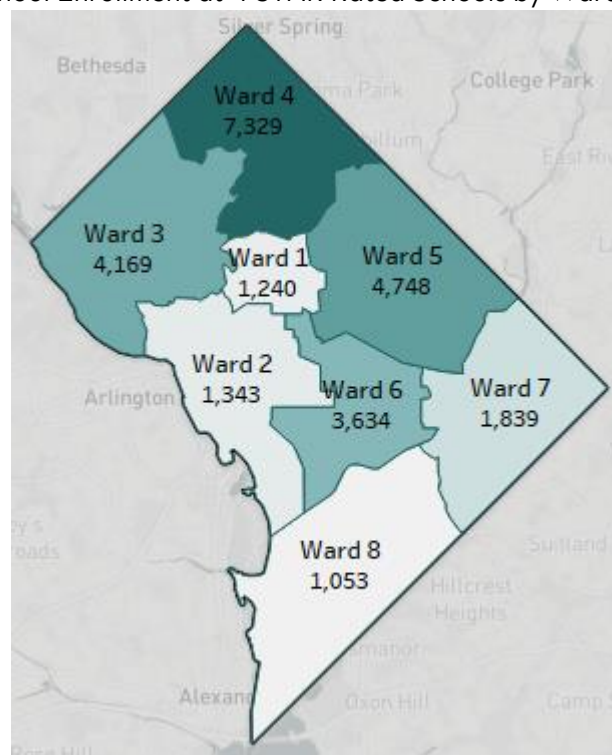
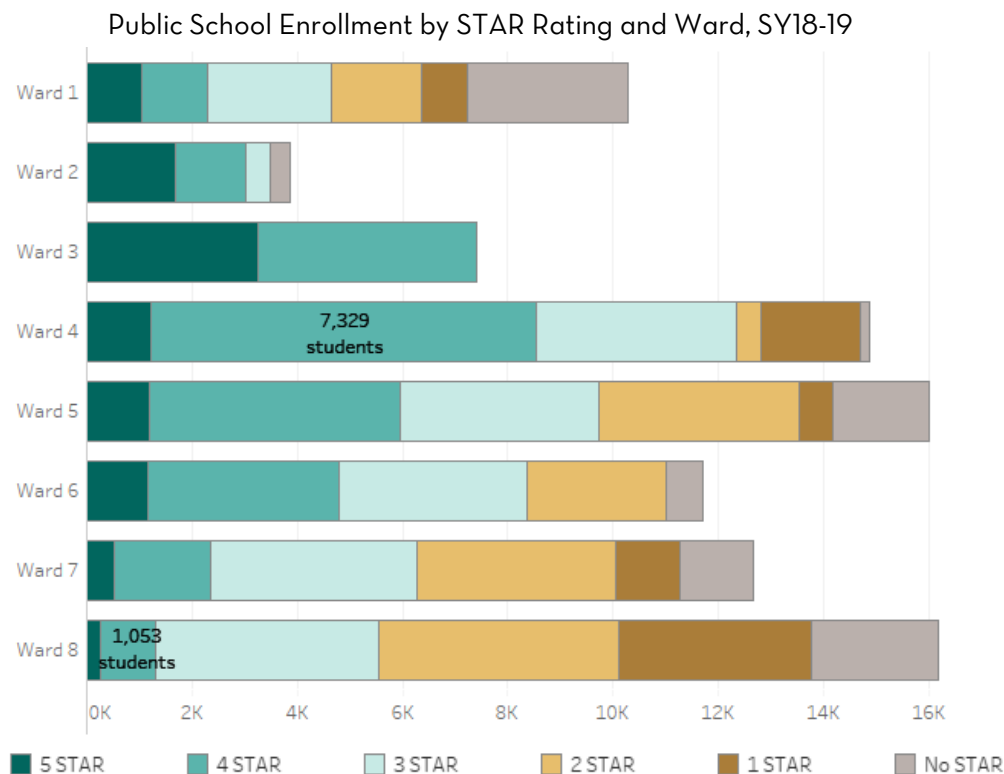


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Public School Enrollment by STAR Rating and Ward ★

The interactive dashboard displays the number of students enrolled by each STAR category at the ward level. For instance, the map below shows the total public school enrollment at 4 STAR schools (DCPS and PCS) by ward. Ward 4 has the greatest 4 STAR school enrollment at 7,329 students. Ward 8 has the smallest enrollment in 4 STAR schools at 1,053 students. See the interactive dashboards to identify the specific schools in each ward and their associated enrollments, as well as filter specifically by sector (DCPS or public charter schools).

Public School Enrollment at 4 STAR Rated Schools by Ward, SY18-19



Note: See Sources and Methodology for more information about how STAR ratings are calculated.

Source: OSSE 2018 DC School Report Card and STAR Framework and OSSE Audited Enrollment, SY17-18 and SY18-19



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Appendix – Specialized School Program Definitions

The following specialized program definitions are from My School DC or and have been agreed upon by District of Columbia Public Schools and the DC Public Charter School Board. They include the following:

- **Alternative Diploma Granting:** high schools that grant high school diplomas for disengaged youth who may have previously dropped out, have adjudication issues, or have had difficulties in traditional school settings.
- **Application** (DCPS only - sometimes referred to as "selective"): high schools that admit students based on specific criteria or eligibility requirements; only DCPS is able to operate an application school.
- **Arts Integration:** students study visual and/or performing arts as part of the school's mission and core academic curriculum, beyond dedicated arts periods.
- **Career and Technical Education (CTE):** CTE programs complete a three or four-year course sequence (in addition to their core high school classes) that includes preparation for industry-recognized certification exams and participation in work-based learning experiences.
- **Dual College Enrollment:** the school offers its students the opportunity to maintain their high school status while enrolling part-time or full-time at a participating colleges or universities. In addition to being able to take challenging college courses that are not offered at their home high school and to earn college credit that can be transferred to many postsecondary institutions.

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Appendix – Specialized School Program Definitions cont'd.

The following specialized program definitions are from My School DC or and have been agreed upon by District of Columbia Public Schools and the DC Public Charter School Board. They include the following:

Continued from previous slide

- **Dual Language/Language Immersion:** students learn a second language beyond dedicated language periods, with the second language often serving as the medium of instruction in core academic subjects.
- **International Baccalaureate (IB):** school is authorized by the International Baccalaureate Organization to offer the IB Primary Years (ages 3-12), Middle Years (ages 11-16), or Diploma Program(s) (ages 16-19), or is an active candidate for such authorization. IB schools develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. Students who successfully complete the IB Diploma Program are awarded an internationally recognized IB Diploma in conjunction with their local school diploma.
- **Montessori:** school uses a Montessori instructional approach to learning; students are grouped into mixed-age classrooms with substantial choice and independence in their learning activities.
- **Single-gender Campus:** School's enrollment targets a single gender.
- **STEM:** integrates science, technology, engineering, and math so that each of these content areas is taught within other content areas and equally alongside literacy and composition. STEM is a part of the school's mission and core academic curriculum.



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Sources and Methodology

Sources and Methodology:

Schools: Schools are identified using OSSE's School and LEA Information Management Systems (SLIMS). Schools can be located across multiple facilities. In these cases, the main facility was used for all geographic analysis.

School addresses were verified with District of Columbia Public Schools and the DC Public Charter School Board. School addresses were geocoded by the Office of the Chief Technology Officer with all District-appropriate neighborhood geographies included.

School Enrollment: OSSE Audited Enrollment, SY2013-14 through SY2018-19. The following audited enrollment business rules were applied to the audited enrollment files for SY17-18 and SY18-19: 1) The universe of DCPS students include audited UPSFF residents + Non-resident tuition paying + Residency unverified and 2) The universe of public charter students include audited UPSFF residents. The first year for at-risk designation was in SY2014-15.

School programs were collected from District of Columbia Public Schools, the DC Public Charter School Board, and My School DC

English Learner students: Only students between the ages of 3 and 21 can qualify for a English Lerner designation per federal requirements.

Special education students: Only students between the ages of 3 and 21 can qualify for a special education designation per federal requirements.

At risk for academic failure students: Alternative and adult students do not qualify for the at risk status so are excluded from the at risk analysis.

continued



Chapter 2. Public Schools

Sources and Methodology

Sources and Methodology, continued:

OSSE School Transparency and Reporting (STAR) Framework:

- The STAR Framework provides an overall school performance rating from 1 to a 5 stars based on an overall school performance score (1 STAR being the lowest and five the highest). STAR calculates an overall school performance rating using measures of academic achievement, student growth, school environment, English language proficiency, and graduation rates for student groups in the school. The STAR Framework first measures a school's performance for all students for each of the applicable metrics and then measures performance for students with disabilities, students who are at-risk, English learners, and each racial/ethnic group in the school with more than ten students. Schools that serve exclusively adults, exclusively students in grades PK3 thru grade 2, schools that are new, and schools that serve small numbers of students (below the threshold for student data privacy protections) do not receive STAR ratings. In 2018, 203 out of 235 schools in DC earned a STAR rating. In 2019, 206 out of 239 schools in DC earned a STAR rating. See OSSE's 2018 and 2019 [Framework Briefs and Technical Guides](#) for more information.
- Enrollment is aggregated at the grade band level (PK3-5, 6-8, 9-12, Adult, Alternative, and SPED) for each school. However, not every grade band and its associated enrollment has its own Framework Score and Framework Rating. For example: if a school's enrollment spans grades 5th-12th, the school would have enrollment for three grade bands, Elementary, Middle, and High. However, the school would only be rated under two frameworks under the STAR Rating system: Middle and High. In these cases, the other grade band and its enrollment is assigned the Framework, including the Framework Rating and Score, under which those students were rated. In the case of the example, the 5th grade students were rated under the Middle Framework, but their enrollment will be included in the elementary count when the dashboard is filtered by grade band for Elementary (PK3-5).